

C A S T L E W A R D
R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
N O R T H U M B E R L A N D .

R E P O R T S
- of the -
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- and the -
S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
 - of the -
 CASTLE WARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
 NORTHUMBERLAND.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I herewith beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1945.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	82,827
Population	...	...	...	...	12,880
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	3,649
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£100,374
Sum represented by a penny rate	.	...	...	...	£418

The two main occupations in the area are coal mining and agriculture, the former being in the eastern part of the district.

Vital Statistics

Births.

	M.	F.	
Legitimate	95	79	
Illegitimate	8	6	
	<u>103</u>	<u>85</u>	= 188

Birth Rate:- 14.6 per 1,000 per annum compared with 17.0 per 1,000 per annum in 1944.

Birth Rate for England and Wales in 1945 was 16.1 per 1,000 per annum.

Still Births.

	M.	F.	
Legitimate	3	1	
Illegitimate	1	-	
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	

Total Rate (Live and Still) 14.9 per 1,000 per annum compared with 17.5 per 1,000 per annum in 1944.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered during the year was 149 compared with 158 in 1944.

Death Rate:- 11.6 per 1,000 per annum compared with 12.6 per 1,000 per annum in 1944.

The death rate for England and Wales in 1945 was 11.4 per 1,000 per annum.

The three main causes of deaths were:

Heart disease	35
Cancer	25
Intracranial Vascular Diseases ...	20
	<hr/>
	80

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and other Puerperal Causes.

- Nil -

Infantile Mortality.

The total number of deaths under one year of age was 11 compared with 9 in 1944.

	M.	F.	
Legitimate	7	3	
Illegitimate	1	-	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	8	3	= 11

Death rate of all Infants under one year per 1,000 Live Births was 50.9 compared with 41.8 in 1944.

Deaths from Cancer:- There have been 25 deaths from this cause.

"	"	Typhoid Fever.	1
"	"	Measles.	Nil
"	"	Whooping Cough.	Nil
"	"	Diarrhoea	Nil
"	"	Tuberculosis (Respiratory and other forms.	15.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (A) Medical - Part time Medical Officer of Health.
(B) Others. - Sanitary Inspector with Assistant both having Certificates of Royal Sanitary Institute.

Also act as Inspectors of Dairies and Cowsheds, Meat Inspectors, and the carrying out of the Housing Inspections under the Housing Acts.

2. Laboratory Facilities.

The examination and analysis of Clinical Material (Sputum, Swabs, etc.,) milk and water is under the control of the County Council.

3. Nursing in the Home.

(A) General. - Most of the district is supplied with nurses having the C.M.B. qualification and supplied By the County Nursing Association, under the control of the County Council, the funds being provided by voluntary contributions, with the addition in some instances of small fees.

(B) Infectious Diseases. - Relief nurses from the County Nursing Association when available.

4. Hospitals.

(A) Infectious Disease. - West Northumberland Joint Infectious Hospital situated at Lemington: Takes in cases from Newburn, Gosforth, Prudhoe, and Hexham Urban Districts, and from Hexham and Castle Ward Districts, 68 beds.

(B) Smallpox. - Arrangements have now been made with the Earsdon Joint Hospital Board to remove and treat cases occurring in this area.

(C) Tuberculosis. - Provision is made by the County Council in their Sanatoria and Ponteland Emergency Hospital.

(D) General Medical and Surgical. - Treated in the various Hospitals in Newcastle upon Tyne.

(E) Maternity. - Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, Newcastle General Hospital (abnormal cases) Dilston Hall, Corbridge and Mona Taylor Maternity Home, Stannington.

5. Ambulance Facilities.

(A) Infectious Cases. - Removed by respective Hospital Authorities.

(B) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases. The district is served by ambulance from East Walbottle Coal Co. Ltd., Ponteland, Corbridge Branch British Red Cross Society, Dinnington Colliery, and Morpeth R.D.C., arrangements having been made with the various authorities mentioned.

PREVELANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases occurring in the forces.	Total No. Deaths.
Smallpox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever ...	34	1	Nil
Enteric Fever ...	1	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	8	2	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	17	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia neo natorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	10	Nil	1
Measles.	223	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough ...	3	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	3	Nil	Nil
Dysentery (8 Flexum = 9 1 Sonne)	9	Nil	Nil
Malaria	2	1	Nil
Typhoid Fever. ...	2	Nil	1
TOTAL CASES ...	312	4	2

Cases in Forces are included in the total.

Scarlet Fever.

34 Cases notified compared with 16 in 1944.

DIPHTHERIA.

8 cases have been notified compared with 9 in 1944

The number of children immunised during the year was 284 approximately 98%. I consider that the percentage of children protected in this area is satisfactory.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of cases 51.

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
24	23	4	-

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

No schools were closed during the year on account of Infectious Diseases or other cause.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

During the year the following Bacteriological Examinations have been made.

	Positive	Negative	Total.
Sputum for T.B.	9	27	36
Swabs for B.Diphtheria	13	180	193
Blood for Agglutination		1	1
Miscellaneous specimens.			171
Milk Samples for T.B.	-	-	-
Milk (M.B.Reduction Test)	-	-	-

WATER.

<u>Class I.</u>	<u>Class III</u>	<u>Class IV</u>	<u>Total</u>
7	1	4	12

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

HARALD J. NICHOLSON M.B.Ch.B.
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1945.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Seventh Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Department.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

Owing to the restriction on the use of materials and man-power, it has been very difficult to get works of repair and maintenance carried out, and every effort has been made to get the most essential works done in the interest of public health.

HOUSING.

Plans for 32 buildings chiefly alterations and garages were approved during the year, but as this class of work could only be carried out under licence which, were limited in number, only a small percentage were completed.

Grants under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act. 1926 were discontinued at the end of September. Grants for the reconstruction of some 26 cottages were outstanding at that date and only three houses were completed during the year.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

On the return of Mr. G. B. Hogg from Active Service a commencement was made with the survey.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company supply water under pressure to approximately two thirds of the population in the eastern parts of the district. There have been no extensions of these mains during the year.

The Council's schemes at Whalton, Heugh, Heddon and Kirkheaton continue satisfactorily; a duplicate pumping set has been provided at Whalton.

A considerable amount of information and details has been supplied to the County Councils Consulting Engineers in connection with the proposed County Water Scheme.

SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

The various works continue to function fairly satisfactorily. Many will require to be enlarged and overhauled, to meet the increased housing when labour and materials become available.

SEWERAGE.

Plans have been prepared for a new sewer from Prestwick Terrace to Ridge Estate Works.

Plans are also in course of preparation for a new sewer from Dinnington Village to Seaton Burn Schools, to connect with the Seaton Valley Joint Boards' sewer.

SCAVENGING.

There has been no extension to the scavenging area during the year. This work is carried out by the Council's own wagon and men. The work continues to be carried out in a satisfactory manner.

SALVAGE.

This work continues partly in conjunction with the collection of house refuse, and partly by special collection, where there is no regular system of scavenging. The amount of material available for collection is exceedingly small and involves considerable expense owing to the area to be covered and the distance the wagon has to travel.

The following amounts of material were collected and disposed of:-

	Tons	cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£.	S.	D.
Paper & Cardboard	35.	17.	0.	0.	228.	11.	0.
Scrap iron & tins.	3.	14.	0.	0.	9.	10.	0.
Brass.				18		3.	2.
Rags & Sacking.	1.	10.	3.	0.	13.	7.	0.
Bones.	1.	11.	0.	0.	8.	8.	0.
Bottles & Jars.	1.	2.	0.	11.	6.	14.	0.
6.	43	15.	0.	1.	£266.	13.	2.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

All meat consumed in the district is sent in from the Ministry of Food at Newcastle; routine inspections were made from time to time.

The following quantities of foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

1 gall. Bottle Pickles.
1 " " Piccalilla.
114 lbs. Oranges.
14 lbs. Special Magarine.
35 tins Evaporated Milk
4 lbs. Liver
1 cwt. Potatoes.
28 lbs. Dried Egg.
35 lbs. Dried Peaches.
6 lbs. Luncheon Meat.
4½ cwt. Cabbage.
35 lbs. Butter.
16 lbs. Bacon.
150 doz. Eggs.
10 lbs. Mincemeat.
4 st. Flour.
19 lbs. Jam.

As in previous years a considerable amount of time has been taken up in dealing with various departments requiring information and returns.

As this is my last report as your Senior Sanitary Inspector, I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council and the various Officials for their kindness and assistance during the period I held that office.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES BOLTON.
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

